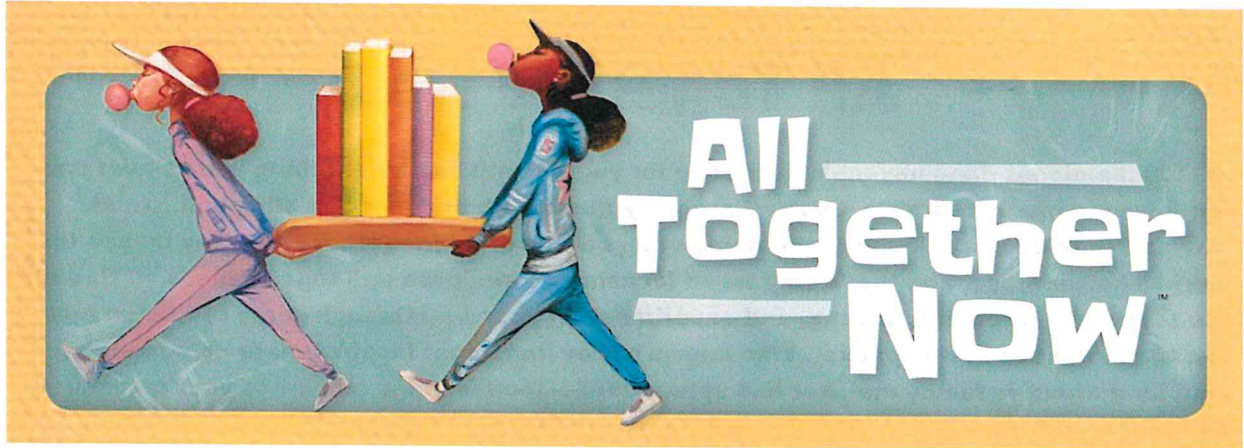


# Newport Public Library's Summer Reading Challenge 2023



## Ages 8-12

# Friends forever

\_\_\_\_\_ Read 105 minutes this week (15 minutes per day). (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete the activity on the back of this page. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Attend an in-person event at any library. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ The best way to make friends is to have qualities that “attract” other people to you—kindness, friendliness, a good sense of humor, etc. Try this static electricity experiment to attract pepper to an inflated balloon: Mix a teaspoon of salt in a pile with a teaspoon of pepper, then rub the balloon on your head and hold it close to the pile. Watch as the pepper jumps towards the balloon! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ The next time you visit the library, bring along a friend who’s never been there and give them a tour! Be sure to introduce your friend to the librarian at the front desk, show them all your favorite sections, and maybe even recommend a favorite book or two! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Have you ever put together a jigsaw puzzle? They’re a fun, challenging way to work together and bond with others. Try grabbing some friends or family members and putting one together—if you can’t find one around the house, visit the library and try one of ours! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Ice cream is the perfect treat for a hot summer day—and it’s even better when you share it with a friend! Try this “ice cream” sharing game: Draw a crisscross pattern on two pieces of paper or cardstock and roll them into a cone shape. Then find a ball that fits inside the cones, grab a friend and use your cones to toss the “ice cream” back and forth like a game of catch! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Plants are some of the best friends we have on Earth, whether they’re providing the oxygen we breathe, the food we eat, or just some beautiful springtime blooms! Learn more about how plants interact with their environment by reading *Plants & Ecosystems* by Alexa Kurzius (under Ecosystems on TrueFlix) and completing the accompanying activities. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Have you ever wondered how computers and robots work? Much of it is thanks to a process called coding—creating a set of instructions that tells the machine what to do. One type of code, binary, uses a series of zeroes and ones. You can do some “coding” of your own by making binary code friendship bracelets for yourself and a friend (see page 15 for instructions)! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Learn some new things about your friends by playing Get To Know You Bingo using the card on page 17! (1 pt.)

# Community Connections

\_\_\_\_\_ Read 105 minutes this week (15 minutes per day). (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete the activity on the back of this page. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Attend an in-person program at any library. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Take a walk through your neighborhood or your favorite park and see how many items on the Neighborhood Nature Walk Scavenger Hunt (available on page 18) you can find! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ If you're not into scavenger hunts you can always do a mini clean up in your neighborhood. Grab some friends, a trash bag and gloves (you can use a plastic bag for this too) and pick up any trash you see! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Water is one of the most precious resources we have, and one of the best ways we can help our community is by keeping local waterways clean. Try the water cleanup experiments on pages 19-20 to find ways you can help out! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ The older people in our communities have so much they can tell us and teach us. Talk to an older relative or neighbor about their life. Ask them what their childhood was like—what they did for fun, their favorite subject in school, etc. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Learn more about some of your favorite farm foods by reading any one of the books in the Farm to Table section on TrueFlix (*Grains & Cereals*, *Seafood*, *Organic Food*, or *Milk*) and completing the accompanying activities. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Try your hand at found map poetry by grabbing an old map or atlas and crossing out words with a black Sharpie to make a poem! You will have to add words of your own to complete the poem (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ When people in our community help one another, they build “bridges” that bring all of us just a little closer together. You can build a bridge of your own by sticking toothpicks and gumdrops (or marshmallows) together and testing the structure using toy cars! (Hint: triangles are the strongest shape!) (1 pt.)

# Science that serves

\_\_\_\_\_ Read 105 minutes this week (15 minutes per day). (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete the activity on the back of this page. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Attend an in-person program at any library. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Try using Play-Doh to build a rollercoaster-like path for rolling marbles on—the more complex, the better! (Tip: Use a cookie sheet for the base and support the structure with upside-down paper cups cut down to various heights.) (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ It's always fun to spend a lazy summer day blowing bubbles, but did you know that you can use those bubbles to create art? Just follow the instructions on page 21 to make your own beautiful, colorful popped bubble art! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Do you have a grandparent or older relative who's a great cook? Ask them about their favorite recipes or a favorite food or snack their parents made for them growing up—then try making that food together! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Organizations like Habitat for Humanity build houses for people in need. Try building a house for your favorite doll or action figure using items you find around your own house—send photos of your spectacular structures to us at [nplcomputers@gmail.com](mailto:nplcomputers@gmail.com)! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ The biography section at the library is jam-packed with the true stories of famous scientists, from Albert Einstein to Galileo to Marie Curie. Check out a scientist's biography at the front desk and learn more about someone who helped us better understand the world around us! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Can you build an egg-carrying craft that keeps the egg from breaking when you drop it from a large height? Potential materials for the craft might include: aluminum foil, plastic wrap, craft sticks, cotton balls, etc. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ On TrueFlix, read *Climate Change* and complete the accompanying activities to learn about the dangers currently affecting our environment and what we can do to help. (1 pt.)

## Expand your world

\_\_\_\_\_ Read 105 minutes this week (15 minutes per day). (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete the activity on the back of this sheet. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Attend an in-person program at any library. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Take a trip around the world without even leaving your neighborhood! Just stop by the library and check out a book from the Juvenile Nonfiction section about a country you'd like to visit. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Or maybe you'd rather explore the world with your taste buds? Pick one of the more than 100 global recipes at [www.bonvoyagewithkids.com/kid-friendly-recipes-around-the-world](http://www.bonvoyagewithkids.com/kid-friendly-recipes-around-the-world) and try your hand at making it in your own kitchen! (Note: You'll need a grownup's help for this one!)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Reminisce* is a magazine filled with old pictures and stories sent in by readers sharing memories from the past. Try looking through an issue of *Reminisce* with a grandparent or older relative—chances are that a glance at the pages will remind them of their own special memories and stories that they can share with you! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Every country in the world uses a different colorful flag to represent itself. If you started your own country, what would its flag look like? What shape would it be? Draw it on a piece of paper—use crayons, markers, colored pencils, etc. to decorate! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ You're in for a busy summer full of reading—which means you'll need a bookmark to keep your place! Try making decorated bookmarks for yourself and a friend featuring the friendship quotes on page 22! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ On TrueFlix, in the My United States section, read about any state or territory besides the one you live in and complete the accompanying activities. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Explore the fascinating works of art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City (the "Met" for short) online using the Map feature at [www.metmuseum.org/art/online-features/metkids](http://www.metmuseum.org/art/online-features/metkids)! (1 pt.)

# Working and Playing Together

\_\_\_\_\_ Read 105 minutes this week (15 minutes per day). (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete the activity on the back of this sheet. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Attend an in-person program at any library. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Make your own balloon-powered car using the instructions on pages 23-24! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Come into the library and try your hand at the crossword puzzle on the floor of the kids' section! How many words can you fill in? (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Do you play a musical instrument? If not, you can always make your own! Try making one of the do-it-yourself music makers on pages 25-26! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Another option for music lovers: take a gander at the library's magnificent music collection! We've got everything from reggae to blues to jazz to calypso—try checking out a few CDs that look interesting to you, then getting some friends together for a dance party! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Lots of different systems of organs work together to keep our bodies running smoothly. Read about one of those systems under the Human Body section on TrueFlix and complete the accompanying activities to learn more! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Stop in at the library and learn about animals who work and play together using our Mutualism in Nature matching game! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Grab two friends, parents or siblings and try out this partner painting activity: Set two large pieces of paper side by side on a table or clip them next to each other on a large easel. Tell one partner that they're the leader and instruct them to paint a picture, one step at a time. Instruct the other partner to follow the leader, painting the exact same shapes and lines in the same places on their paper. Set a timer for a few minutes to indicate when that partner's turn is over and then switch! (1 pt.)

# Kindness for Everyone

\_\_\_\_\_ Read 105 minutes this week (15 minutes per day). (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete the activity on the back of this sheet. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Attend an in-person program at any library. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Sam the gummy worm's boat has capsized! Can you and your friends help turn it right-side up and get him back inside safely? Here's the catch—you can only use paper clips! (See full Saving Sam instructions on page 27—or stop by the library and try the game at the front desk!) (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Summer's the perfect time to chalk the block! Draw happy pictures and kind messages in chalk on the sidewalk in front of the library to welcome people in! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Or if drawing with chalk isn't your thing, try painting the pictures and messages on smooth, round rocks and place the rocks all over your neighborhood—a perfect way to spread kindness throughout the community! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ If you're still looking for other ways to spread kindness, try a few of the random acts of kindness on page 28! (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Or stop by the library and check out a book about kindness! (A list of titles can be found on page 29 if you're not sure where to start.) (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ On TrueFlix, read about a civil rights hero (for example, Martin Luther King Jr. or Malala Yousafzai) and complete the accompanying activities. (1 pt.)

\_\_\_\_\_ It's important to be kind to everyone—but how often do we remember to be kind to ourselves? Make your own self-affirmation jar by writing encouraging phrases (i.e., *Keep going, You got this!, You are loved*) on slips of colored paper and placing them in an old jar or can. Be sure to keep it in a place you'll see every day so you'll always be reminded how special and important you are! (1 pt.)

## Binary code friendship bracelets

### Materials

- **Beads (at least two different colors)**
- **String or pipe cleaners**

### Instructions

1. **Using beads of your choice, designate one color to represent “1” and another color to represent “0.”**
2. **Using the binary alphabet on page 16, line up the beads onto the string or pipe cleaner so that they spell out your (or a friend’s) initials.**
3. **Tie together the loose ends of the string or pipe cleaner to finish the bracelet.**



**B I N G O**

has freckles	loves chocolate	likes to play soccer	doesn't drink coffee	have broken a bone
traveled to another country	left-handed	scared of spiders	hates onions	born in winter
enjoys cooking	like to wake up early	<b>FREE</b>	has curly hair	born in July
<b>can't swim</b>	plays musical instrument	<b>has a pet</b>	has 2 or more brothers or sisters	has more than 3 black spots on face
likes to dance	can whistle a song	wears glasses	has taken a train trip	wearing blue

# Water Cleanup Activities

## Materials

- Fish squirters or squirt/spray bottles
- Paper
- Pencil, pens or markers
- Shaving cream
- Small buckets or containers (two)
- Small tables, desks or TV trays (two)
- Towel or drop cloth
- Water

## Activity 1: Prototype a Water-Cleaning Device

1. Make a list or have a conversation about the ways you use water every day.
2. Do an internet search or write down three challenges you know are connected to water — like removing garbage or pollution from rivers, lakes and oceans, or making sure everyone has access to clean drinking water.
3. Decide which water challenge will be your focus.
4. Explore inventors—like Ashok Gadgil—and inventions that have helped with water-related challenges.
5. Design and sketch your own invention to address your water challenge.
6. Share your idea with your family and friends to keep the fun and inspiration going!

## Activity 2: Blob Fish

1. Ask a family member or friend(s) to play an ocean cleanup game called Blob Fish!
2. Fill two small buckets or containers about halfway with water.
3. Place a towel on the floor (or choose to play this game outdoors).

# Popped Bubble Art

## Materials

- **Bubble mix**
- **Bubble wands**
- **Food coloring (various colors)**
- **Paper**

## Instructions

1. **Pour 1 tablespoon of bubble mix into a small, shallow bowl.**
2. **Add a few drops of food coloring to the bubble mix and stir well.**
3. **Place your bubble wand in the colored bubble mix, remove and blow bubbles towards your sheet of paper.**
4. **As the bubbles hit the paper and pop, they'll leave interesting patterns—repeat with other colors.**

## Tips

- **Caution: Food coloring will stain surfaces and clothing. Be sure to protect both!**
- **This activity can be frustrating on a windy day, since the wind can make it hard to get the bubbles to hit the target paper.**

# Balloon-Powered Car

## Materials

- Plastic bottle
- Four plastic bottle caps
- Wooden skewer
- Two straws
- Balloon
- Tape
- Scissors or sharp knife

## Preparation

1. Cut one of the straws in half.
2. Tape both pieces of the straw to one side of the water bottle.
3. Cut the wooden skewer in half and push each piece through one of the straws. These will form your axles. (Have an adult help.)
4. Have an adult help use the scissors to poke a “+”-shaped hole directly in the center of each plastic bottle cap.
5. Press each bottle cap onto the ends of the wooden skewers. These will form your wheels.

## Procedure

1. Put your car down on a flat surface and give it a good push. Make sure the car rolls easily and coasts for a bit before stopping. If your car gets stuck or does not roll smoothly make sure: your axles are parallel to each other; the hole in each bottle cap is centered; and the straws are securely taped to the water bottle and do not wobble. You can add some glue if tape is not sufficient.
2. Tape the neck of the balloon around one end of the other straw. Wrap the tape very tightly so the connection is airtight.
3. Cut a small hole in the top of the water bottle, just big enough to push the straw through.
4. Push the free end of the straw through the hole and out the mouth of the bottle.
5. Use tape to secure the straw to the bottle.

# DIY Music Makers

## Jingle Sticks

### Materials

- Dowel rods, popsicle sticks, or pencils
- Pipe cleaners
- Glue or duct tape (optional)
- Jingle bells
- Optional: Art supplies to decorate the stick

### Assembly

1. First, decorate the dowel rod, if desired.
2. String two to six jingle bells onto a pipe cleaner, making sure to leave room at the top and bottom.
3. Wrap the pipe cleaner around the dowel rod, twisting and securing at the top and bottom. Glue or duct tape to secure is optional.
4. Twist and secure additional chenille stems with jingle bells onto the dowel rod if desired.

## Kazoos

### Materials

- Cardboard tubes, such as toilet paper rolls or paper towel rolls cut in half
- Rubber bands
- Wax paper
- Scissors
- Sharp pencil or other object to poke holes
- Optional: Art supplies to decorate the tube

# Saving Sam

## Materials

- 1 clear plastic cup (“boat”)
- 1 gummy worm (“Sam”)
- 1 gummy lifesaver
- 2 paper clips

## Instructions

1. To begin, place the “boat” upside down on a flat surface with the lifesaver trapped inside, placing Sam on top of the cup.
2. Use the paper clips to turn the boat right-side up, put the life jacket on Sam, and put him safely inside the boat.

## Rules

1. You can only touch the materials using the paper clips—don’t let your hands touch Sam, the boat, or the lifesaver!
2. Avoid harming Sam in any way (i.e., “skewering”).

# Books About Kindness

## Early Readers

***Too Small Tola* by Atinuke**

***Looking After Louis* by Lesley Ely**

***Showing Kindness* by Rebecca Pettiford**

***Dragon Gets By* by Dav Pilkey**

***You are My Friend* by Aimee Reid**

***Knight Owls* by Eric Seltzer**

***A Walk in the Words* by Hudson Talbott**

## Middle Grade

***The House That Wasn't There* by Elana K. Arnold**

***The Very Very Far North* by Dan Bar-el**

***Shark Caller* by Zilah Bethel**

***The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown**

***Yusuf Azeem is Not a Hero* by Saadia Faruqi**

***Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt**

***Shouting at the Rain* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt**

***Saint Ivy: Kind at All Costs* by Laurie Morrison**

***We are Wolves* by Katrina Nannestad**

***The Trumpet of the Swan* by E.B. White**

***Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White**